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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q68137

Kenji TSUKADA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/031,408

Group Art Unit: 2853

Confirmation No.: 2132

Examiner: Leonard S. Liang

Filed: January 18, 2002

For: INK CONSUMPTION DETECTING METHOD, AND INK JET RECORDING APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/031,408


Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits English language Abstracts for all foreign references.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 4, 2005

				Complete if Known	
Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/031,408
				Confirmation Number	2132
				Filing Date	January 18, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Kenji TSUKADA
				Art Unit	2853
				Examiner Name	Leonard S. Liang
				Attorney Docket Number	Q68137
Sheet	1	of	2		

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 6,012,794		1/11/2000	Nakano et al.
		US 6,799,820		10/5/2004	Usui et al.
		US 4,196,625		4/8/1980	Kern
		US 4,604,633		4,604,633	Kimura et al.
		US 4,977,413		12/11/1990	Yamanaka et al.
		US 5,132,711		7/21/1992	Shinada et al.
		US 5,835,817		11/10/1998	Bullock et al.
		US 5,900,888		5/4/1999	Kurosawa
		US 5,506,611		4/9/1996	Ujita et al.
		US 5,694,156		12/2/1997	Hoisington et al.
		US 6,435,638		8/20/2002	Wilson et al.
		US 6,089,688		7/18/2000	Froger et al.
		US 6,254,212		7/3/2001	Coudray et al.
		US 6,347,853		2/19/2002	Kato
		US 6,416,152		7/9/2002	Matsuzaki et al.
		US 6,438,500		8/20/2002	Froger et al.
		US 5,319,973		6/14/1994	Crayton et al.

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		EP	1 055 520	A1	11/29/2000		
		JP	10-305590		11/17/1998		Abstract
		JP	10-323993		12/8/1998		Abstract
		JP	11-010909		1/19/1999		Abstract
		JP	10-175312		6/30/1998		Abstract
		JP	03-169642		7/23/1991		Abstract
		JP	03-067657		3/22/1991		Abstract
		JP	09-286121		11/4/1997		Abstract
		JP	2001-146030		5/29/2001		Abstract

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.